

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Office of Fire and Aviation  
3833 South Development Avenue  
Boise, Idaho 83705

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Information Bulletin No. OF&A 99-003

To: All Field Offices  
Attn: WFSA Plus98 Software Users and Potential Users

From: Director, Office of Fire and Aviation

Subject: Request for Feedback on Wildland Fire Situation Analysis and Wildland  
Fire Use Software (WFSA Plus98) DD: 11/20/98

For many of you, the end of the 1998 fire season is rapidly approaching. For those who used the WFSA Plus98 software, we hope you found it helpful in analyzing and documenting alternative fire management strategies. Like many products, there are always areas where we can improve the robustness of the tool or clarify operational functions. Some of these potential improvements we are aware of and have plans to incorporate in new versions of the software. There are undoubtedly other ideas and problems we are not aware of. Our primary means of evaluating the utility of the WFSA software and correcting deficiencies or developing enhancements to the software is through feedback from the users. Those who use the software know first hand what works for them and what does not.

With that in mind, we would like to invite comments from those who have used the software and have opinions about it. Of course, we are also interested in comments from those who have not used the software but still have an opinion. We are particularly interested in comments that reflect your thoughts about how useful the software is, problems you have encountered, functions that are not clear and any ideas you may have to improve on these. Second, we are interested in any attributes you feel are missing and

should be included. Your candid and frank comments or questions are encouraged. You may either e-mail or phone in your comments to Carl Dammann, Forest Service Tech Transfer (e-mail address: [cdammann/wo\\_nifc@fs.fed.us](mailto:cdammann/wo_nifc@fs.fed.us) or phone 208-387-5093. You may also visit the WFSA homepage at [www.fs.fed.us/land/fire/wfsa.htm](http://www.fs.fed.us/land/fire/wfsa.htm) and respond through the new "feedback" page.

To start the conversation, Carl gave us a couple of ideas he is working on for next year. His primary goal with future versions (unlike this year) is to make new enhancements add-ons. That is, if you are familiar with the look, feel and capabilities of this year's version, you will be able to pick up the new version and see very few, if any, changes. Additional capabilities will be added options; if you choose you may use these additional capabilities, but the program will still function if you ignore them. He is also looking at including GIS capabilities through ARC-View.

If you have further questions, you may contact Carl or Roy Johnson at 208-387-5163.

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